

Laboratory Guidelines For Intestinal Parasites

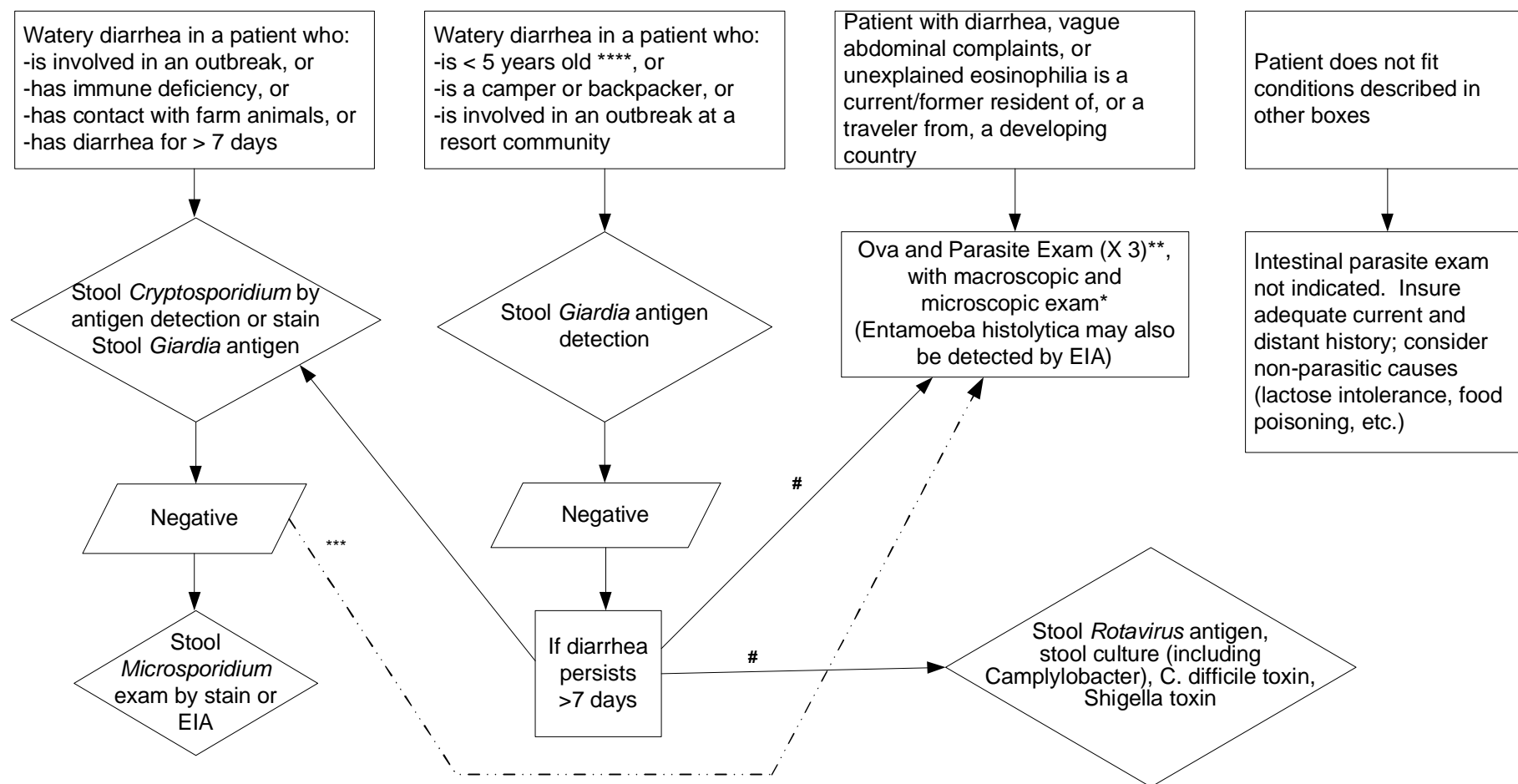
Suggested Physician Ordering Plan for the Laboratory Examination Of Stool Specimens
Washington State Clinical Laboratory Advisory Council
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The individual clinician is in the best position to determine which tests are most appropriate for a particular patient.

Patient Characteristics

NOTE: This algorithm does not include the work-up for bacterial pathogens.



NOTES:

- * If negative, consider adding Giardia Antigen test because of greater sensitivity.
- ** Collect every other day or 3 samples over 10 days
- *** Perform O&P exam to look for Cyclospora and Isospora. Some labs perform at same time as Cryptosporidium
- **** For < 5 years old, consider ordering Rotavirus antigen as part of initial work up
- # Additional tests that less commonly need to be performed as guided by detailed patient history. Not all tests listed in the "box" may be relevant for a particular patient.

References:

1. Personal communication Joseph Yao, MD; Mayo Clinic
2. Personal communication Brad Jensen, MD; SWMC Vancouver, WA
3. Mayo Clinic Reference Laboratory Manual
4. Shirley Phillips, PhD, letter dated 1/21/1995; Legacy Laboratories